

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: Feb. 26, 2007

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North Dakota Department of Health Reports One Suspected Case of Salmonella Linked to Recalled Peanut Butter

BISMARCK, N.D. – One suspected case of salmonella linked to recalled peanut butter has been reported to the North Dakota Department of Health, according to State Epidemiologist Kirby Kruger. Further testing is underway to confirm the suspected case.

The case reported to the Department of Health is a child younger than 10 who has been ill with diarrhea, abdominal cramps, vomiting and fever. The child, who reportedly had eaten Peter Pan brand peanut butter before becoming ill, was not hospitalized and is recovering.

"We are not surprised to see we have a case of salmonella potentially linked to peanut butter," Kruger said. "The good news is that the child is recovering. We encourage everyone to check their cupboards and pantries for brands of peanut butter that have been linked to the outbreak of salmonella across the country."

The Department of Health continues to advise consumers not to eat Great Value brand peanut butter with lot numbers beginning with "2111" or any Peter Pan brand peanut butter purchased since May 2006. People who ate this peanut butter and are ill with diarrhea should contact their health-care provider and the Department of Health. People experiencing symptoms should keep the peanut butter for possible testing. People who have not been ill but have the peanut butter in their possession can throw it away, take it to the place of purchase for a refund, or send the product lid with their name and address to ConAgra Foods, P.O. Box 3768, Omaha, Neb 68103.

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Symptoms of salmonella include diarrhea, abdominal cramps, nausea, vomiting and sometimes a fever. For people in poor health or with weakened immune systems, salmonella can invade the bloodstream and cause life-threatening infections.

People who have questions can call their local public health unit or the North Dakota Department of Health at 800.472.2180. Information about the current salmonella outbreak in the United States is available on the Department of Health website at www.ndhealth.gov. A fact sheet with questions and answers concerning the salmonella outbreak is available on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration website at www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/pnutbuqa.html.

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